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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Jean-Marc Boutilier

Serial No. 09/701,831  
Filed: August 31, 2001For: SHOCK VINYLAROMATIC POLYMER  
BY POLYMERIZATION OF A  
VINYLAROMATIC MONOMER

Confirmation No.: 9853

Art Unit: 1711

Examiner: Jeffrey C. Mullis

Attorney Docket: j:  
2988-661-999

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AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The enclosed Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated September 9, 2002 for the above identified patent application.

Three Month Extension. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), the Applicant hereby petitions for a three-month extension of time to respond to the Office Action dated September 9, 2002. This extension will extend the response due date to March 10, 2003. A fee of \$930.00 is believed due for the filing of the Amendment with a three-month extension of time according to 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(3). Please charge the required fee to Pennie & Edmonds LLP Deposit Account No. 16-1150. No other fee is believed due; however, should any additional fees be due please charge the additional fees to Pennie & Edmonds LLP Deposit Account No. 16-1150. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel, without prejudice, claim 11.

Please amend the following claims:

03/21/2003 FFARMER 00000001 (16-1150) Process for preparing a composition of a vinylaromatic polymer matrix surrounding rubber nodules, comprising the step of polymerizing at least one vinylaromatic monomer in the presence of a rubber, a stable free radical which is not introduced into the polymerization mixture in a form linked to a rubber, and a polymerization initiator with a grafting character suitable for said composition wherein said polymerization involves at least one phase inversion,